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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, JULY 12, 2001

APPLICATION OF

VIRGINIA GAS DISTRIBUTION COMPANY CASE NO. PUE010357

For an Annual Informational Filing

ORDER GRANTING EXTENSION FOR
2001 ANNUAL INFORMATIONAL FILING

On June 21, 2001, Virginia Gas Distribution Company ("VGDC" or "the Company"), by counsel, filed a Motion with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission"). In its Motion, VGDC requested that it be allowed to file its 2001 Annual Informational Filing ("AIF"), using a test period consisting of the nine (9) months beginning January 1, 2001, through September 30, 2001, rather than the calendar year ending December 31, 2001. The Company also asked that it be permitted to file its AIF for the period ending September 30, 2001, within 150 days from the end of the September 30, 2001, test period. VGDC represents that after its 2001 AIF, it will file its subsequent AIFs within one hundred and twenty (120) days after the September 30 test year in accordance with 20 VAC 5-200-30 A 9 of the Commission's Rules Governing Utility Rate Increase Applications and Annual Informational Filings.

In support of its Motion, VGDC alleged that as a result of the merger of Virginia Gas Company, a company that owns 50% of VGDC, into a subsidiary of NUI Corporation ("NUI"), it is necessary for VGDC to conform its reporting period to coincide with that of NUI. VGDC further represented that because of the various regulatory filings necessitated by the merger, VGDC required an additional thirty days beyond the 120 days required for filing an AIF by Rule 20 VAC 5-200-30 A 9 of the Commission's Rules Governing Utility Rate Increase Applications and Annual Informational Filings, adopted in Case No. PUA990054.

On July 10, 2001, the Staff, by counsel, filed its Response to VGDC's Motion. In its Response, the Staff noted that it did not oppose VGDC's Motion to use a January 1, 2001, through September 30, 2001, test period for all of the Company's AIF Schedules, with the exception of Schedules 9, 10, and 12. Staff noted that Schedules 9, 10, and 12 relate to earnings tests, and that it required twelve (12) months of data to evaluate properly the Company's current recovery of interest costs, or other regulatory assets that VGDC may propose to capitalize. The Staff represented that it had contacted VGDC's counsel and was authorized to state that VGDC did not object to the Staff's proposal that the Company file Schedules 9, 10, and 12 for the twelve months ending September 30, 2001, with its 2001 AIF, with

respect to capitalized interest or other regulatory assets the Company may have that are subject to an earnings test.

NOW, UPON consideration of VGDC's request and the Staff's Response thereto, the Commission is of the opinion and finds that this matter should be docketed; that VGDC has demonstrated good cause for its request; that VGDC should be permitted to file its 2001 AIF for the period January 1, 2001, through September 30, 2001, for all of its AIF Schedules with the exception of Schedules 9, 10, and 12, within 150 days from September 30, 2001, or by February 27, 2002; that the Company should file Schedules 9, 10, and 12 of its AIF due by February 27, 2002, using the twelve months ended September 30, 2001, as the test period for these Schedules; and that thereafter VGDC should file its subsequent AIFs within one hundred and twenty (120) days after its AIF test period, as required by 20 VAC 5-200-30 A 9, unless otherwise directed by Commission order. We further find that this docket should remain open to receive VGDC's AIF for 2001 when it is filed.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

(1) This matter shall be docketed and assigned Case No. PUE010357.

(2) VGDC shall file its 2001 AIF, using the test period January 1, 2001, through September 30, 2001, for all of its AIF Schedules with the exception of Schedules 9, 10, and 12, by no

later than February 27, 2002. On or before February 27, 2002, VGDC shall file Schedules 9, 10, and 12, using the twelve months ending September 30, 2001, as the test year for these Schedules.

(3) VGDC shall file each of its AIFs following its 2001 AIF within one hundred and twenty (120) days after the Company's test period for these subsequent AIFs, all as required by 20 VAC 5-200-30 A 9, unless ordered to do otherwise by the Commission.

(4) This docket shall remain open to receive the Company's 2001 AIF and accompanying documents.